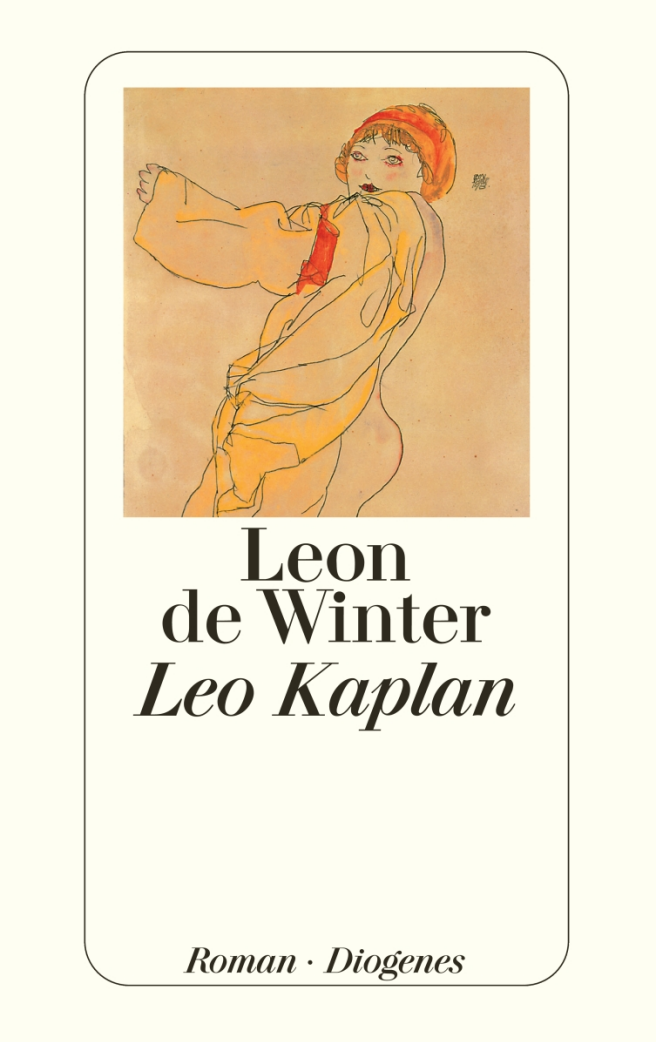
Diogenes

Book factsheet

Leon de Winter
Kaplan

Published by Diogenes as *Leo Kaplan*
Original title: *Kaplan*



The writer Leo Kaplan, almost forty, almost a millionaire, is an acrobat in adultery. Until things get too much for his wife Hannah. Kaplan must recognize that not only did he forfeit his marriage but also his creativity through his amorous escapades. It is not until a surprising reunion with his teenage sweetheart that be begins to understand how he has become the one he is today. A moving novel about yearning and the search for one's own roots.

Contemporary Literature
544 pages
11.6 × 18.4 cm
March 2001

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Movie adaptations

2003: SuperTex
Director: Jan Schütt
Cast: Stephen Mangan, Jan Decleir

2001: The Hollywood Sign
Director: Sönke Wortmann
Cast: Burt Reynolds, Rod Steiger, Tom Berenger

1993: Hoffman's honger
Director: Leon de Winter
Cast: Jacqueline Bisset, Elliot Gould, Thom Hoffman, Huub Stapel

Awards

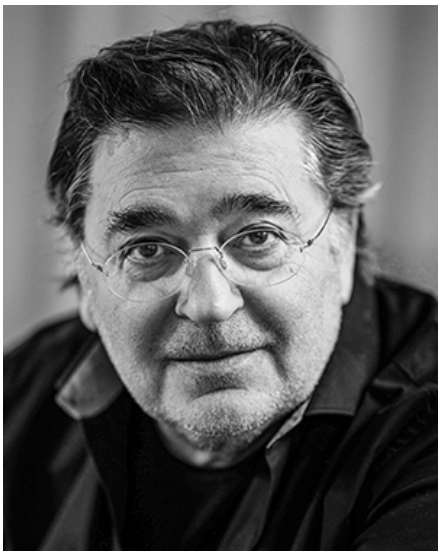
2009 Literaturpreis der Provinz Brabant (›Schrijversprijs der Brabantse Letteren‹) für *Das Recht auf Rückkehr*
2006 Buber-Rosenzweig-Medaille
2002 WELT-Literaturpreis für sein Gesamtwerk
2002 ›*Welt*-Literaturpreis‹ für Leon de Winter: »Die Jury ehrt Leon de Winter für seine so komplex wie spannend angelegten Romane, die am Beispiel meist jüdischer Protagonisten hochkomisch und psychologisch einfühlsam vom Getriebensein des modernen Menschen erzählen. Sein Schreiben zeichnet sich durch einen souveränen Wechsel von Nähe und Distanz im Hinblick auf seine Figuren aus, durch ein meisterliches Gespür für pointierte Dialoge, durch die gekonnte Verknüpfung verschiedener Haupt- und Nebenhandlungen, die seine Bücher so komplex wie spannend machen. Er wird für sein Gesamtwerk geehrt.«
1978 ›Reina Prinsen Geerlings-Preis‹ für *De (ver)wording van de jongere Dürer*

Praise

Kaplan

»Sophisticated, entertaining, and comical – time and again to the reader's astonishment and delight.« – Volker Hage / Der Spiegel, Hamburg

»The love story of Ellen and Leo is one of the saddest, tenderest and most moving ever to have been written.« – Radio Bremen



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Leon de Winter was born in 's-Hertogenbosch in 1954, the son of Dutch Jews. He has worked as a freelance writer and filmmaker since 1976, and lives in the Netherlands. In 2002, he was awarded the ›Welt Literature Prize‹; in 2006, the ›Buber-Rosenzweig Medal‹ for his fight against Antisemitism; and in 2009, the ›Brabant Literature Prize‹ for *The Right of Return*.

Praise (cont'd)

»A literary adventure full of superb parables and innumerable little stories.« – Stern, Hamburg

Leon de Winter

»Ingenious, entertaining, funny – always to the surprise and delight of the reader.« – Volker Hage / Der Spiegel, Hamburg

»Leon de Winter stokes the fires of imagination until the pages are ablaze. It's an approach that makes him unique.« – De Volkskrant, Amsterdam



City of Dogs
272 pages
2025



Geronimo
448 pages
2016
Bestseller



VSV
512 pages
2013
Bestseller



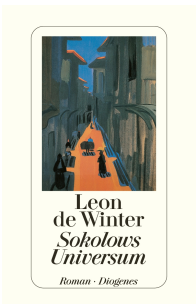
The Right to Return
560 pages
2009
Bestseller



Place de la Bastille
160 pages
2005



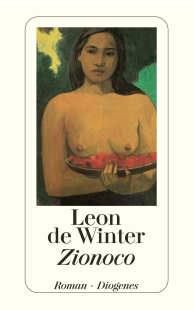
God's Gym
432 pages
2003
Bestseller



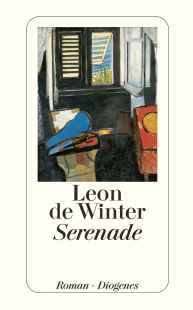
Sokolov's Universe
448 pages
1999



The Sky of Hollywood
368 pages
1998
Movie Adaptation



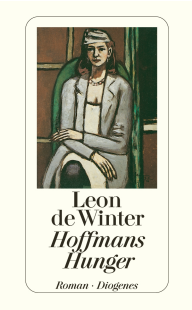
Zionoco
416 pages
1997



Serenade
176 pages
1996



SuperTex
272 pages
1994
Movie Adaptation



Hoffman's Hunger
416 pages
1994
Movie Adaptation